

**SHB 1694** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Transportation

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 47.06B.010 and 1999 c 385 s 1 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 The legislature finds that transportation systems for persons with  
6 special needs are not operated as efficiently as possible. In ~~((some))~~  
7 too many cases, programs established by the legislature to assist  
8 persons with special needs can not be accessed due to these  
9 inefficiencies and coordination barriers.

10 It is the intent of the legislature that public transportation  
11 agencies, pupil transportation programs, private nonprofit  
12 transportation providers, and other public agencies sponsoring programs  
13 that require transportation services coordinate those transportation  
14 services. Through coordination of transportation services, programs  
15 will achieve increased efficiencies and will be able to provide more  
16 rides to a greater number of persons with special needs.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 47.06B.020 and 1998 c 173 s 2 are each amended to read  
18 as follows:

19 (1) The agency council on coordinated transportation is created.  
20 The council is composed of ~~((nine))~~ ten voting members and ~~((eight))~~  
21 four nonvoting, legislative members.

22 (2) The ~~((nine))~~ ten voting members are the superintendent of  
23 public instruction or a designee, the secretary of transportation or a  
24 designee, the secretary of the department of social and health services  
25 or a designee, and ~~((six))~~ seven members appointed by the governor as  
26 follows:

27 (a) One representative from the office of the governor;

28 (b) ~~((Two))~~ Three persons who are consumers of special needs  
29 transportation services, which must include:

1        (i) One person designated by the executive director of the  
2 governor's committee on disability issues and employment; and

3        (ii) One person who is designated by the executive director of the  
4 developmental disabilities council;

5        (c) One representative from the Washington association of pupil  
6 transportation;

7        (d) One representative from the Washington state transit  
8 association; and

9        (e) One of the following:

10        (i) A representative from the community transportation association  
11 of the Northwest; or

12        (ii) A representative from the community action council  
13 association.

14        (3) The ~~((eight))~~ four nonvoting members are legislators as  
15 follows:

16        (a) ~~((Four))~~ Two members from the house of representatives, ~~((two))~~  
17 one from each of the two largest caucuses, appointed by the speaker of  
18 the house of representatives, ~~((two who are members of))~~ including at  
19 least one member from the house transportation policy and budget  
20 committee ~~((and two who are members of))~~ or the house appropriations  
21 committee; and

22        (b) ~~((Four))~~ Two members from the senate, ~~((two))~~ one from each of  
23 the two largest caucuses, appointed by the president of the senate,  
24 ~~((two members of))~~ including at least one member from the senate  
25 transportation committee ~~((and two members of))~~ or the senate ways and  
26 means committee.

27        (4) Gubernatorial appointees of the council will serve two-year  
28 terms. Members may not receive compensation for their service on the  
29 council, but will be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses  
30 incurred in performing their duties as members as set forth in RCW  
31 43.03.220.

32        (5) The secretary of transportation or a designee shall serve as  
33 the chair.

34        (6) The department of transportation shall provide necessary staff  
35 support for the council.

36        (7) The council may receive gifts, grants, or endowments from  
37 public or private sources that are made from time to time, in trust or  
38 otherwise, for the use and benefit of the purposes of the council and

1 spend gifts, grants, or endowments or income from the public or private  
2 sources according to their terms, unless the receipt of the gifts,  
3 grants, or endowments violates RCW 42.17.710.

4 (8) The meetings of the council must be open to the public, with  
5 the agenda published in advance, and minutes kept and made available to  
6 the public. The public notice of the meetings must indicate that  
7 accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made available  
8 upon request.

9 (9) All meetings of the council must be held in locations that are  
10 readily accessible to public transportation, and must be scheduled for  
11 times when public transportation is available.

12 (10) The council shall make an effort to include presentations by  
13 and work sessions including persons with special transportation needs.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 47.06B.030 and 1999 c 385 s 5 are each reenacted and  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (1) To assure implementation of ((the Program for)) an effective  
17 system of coordinated transportation that meets the needs of persons  
18 with special transportation needs, the agency council on coordinated  
19 transportation((, the council, in coordination with stakeholders,))  
20 shall:

21 ((1) Develop guidelines for local planning of coordinated  
22 transportation in accordance with this chapter;

23 (2) Initiate local planning processes by contacting the board of  
24 commissioners and county councils in each county and encouraging them  
25 to convene local planning forums for the purpose of implementing  
26 special needs coordinated transportation programs at the community  
27 level;

28 (3) Work with local community forums to designate a local lead  
29 organization that shall cooperate and coordinate with private and  
30 nonprofit transportation brokers and providers, local public  
31 transportation agencies, local governments, and user groups;

32 (4) Provide a forum at the state level in which state agencies will  
33 discuss and resolve coordination issues and program policy issues that  
34 may impact transportation coordination and costs;

35 (5) Provide guidelines for state agencies to use in creating  
36 policies, rules, or procedures to encourage the participation of their

1 constituents in community based planning and coordination, in  
2 accordance with this chapter;

3 (6) Facilitate state level discussion and action on problems and  
4 barriers identified by the local forums that can only be resolved at  
5 either the state or federal level;

6 (7) Develop and test models for determining the impacts of facility  
7 siting and program policy decisions on transportation costs;

8 (8) Develop methodologies and provide support to local and state  
9 agencies in identifying transportation costs;

10 (9) Develop guidelines for setting performance measures and  
11 evaluating performance;

12 (10) Develop monitoring reporting criteria and processes to assess  
13 state and local level of participation with this chapter;

14 (11) Administer and manage grant funds to develop, test, and  
15 facilitate the implementation of coordinated systems;

16 (12) Develop minimum standards for safety, driver training, and  
17 vehicles, and provide models for processes and technology to support  
18 coordinated service delivery systems;

19 (13) Provide a clearinghouse for sharing information about  
20 transportation coordination best practices and experiences;

21 (14) Promote research and development of methods and tools to  
22 improve the performance of transportation coordination in the state;

23 (15) Provide technical assistance and support to communities;

24 (16) Facilitate, monitor, provide funding as available, and give  
25 technical support to local planning processes;

26 (17) Form, convene, and give staff support to stakeholder work  
27 groups as needed to continue work on removing barriers to coordinated  
28 transportation;

29 (18) Advocate for the coordination of transportation for people  
30 with special transportation needs at the federal, state, and local  
31 levels;

32 (19) Recommend to the legislature changes in laws to assist  
33 coordination of transportation services;

34 (20) Petition the office of financial management to make whatever  
35 changes are deemed necessary to identify transportation costs in all  
36 executive agency budgets;

37 (21) Report to the legislature by December 1, 2000, on council  
38 activities including, but not limited to, the progress of community

1 ~~planning processes, what demonstration projects have been undertaken,~~  
2 ~~how coordination affected service levels, and whether these efforts~~  
3 ~~produced savings that allowed expansion of services. Reports must be~~  
4 ~~made once every two years thereafter, and other times as the council~~  
5 ~~deems necessary))~~

6 (a) Focus its efforts on projects that identify and address  
7 barriers in laws, policies, and procedures;

8 (b) Focus on results; and

9 (c) Identify and advocate for transportation system improvements  
10 for persons with special transportation needs.

11 (2) The council shall, as necessary, convene work groups at the  
12 state, regional, or local level to develop and implement coordinated  
13 approaches to special needs transportation.

14 (3) To improve the service experienced by persons with special  
15 transportation needs, the council shall develop statewide guidelines  
16 for customer complaint processes so that information about policies  
17 regarding the complaint processes is available consistently and  
18 consumers are appropriately educated about available options. To be  
19 eligible for funding on or after January 1, 2008, organizations  
20 applying for state paratransit/special needs grants as described in  
21 section 226(1), chapter 370, Laws of 2006 must implement a process  
22 following the guidelines established by the council.

23 (4) The council shall represent the needs and interests of persons  
24 with special transportation needs in statewide efforts for emergency  
25 and disaster preparedness planning by advising the emergency management  
26 council on how to address transportation needs for high-risk  
27 individuals during and after disasters.

28 **Sec. 4.** RCW 47.06B.040 and 1999 c 385 s 6 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 ~~((The council may request, and may require as a condition of~~  
31 ~~receiving coordination grants, selected county governments to convene~~  
32 ~~local planning forums and invite participation of all entities,~~  
33 ~~including tribal governments, that serve or transport persons with~~  
34 ~~special transportation needs. Counties are encouraged to coordinate~~  
35 ~~and combine their forums and planning processes with other counties, as~~  
36 ~~they find it appropriate. The local community forums must:~~

- ~~(1) Designate a lead organization to facilitate the community planning process on an ongoing basis;~~
- ~~(2) Identify functional boundaries for the local coordinated transportation system;~~
- ~~(3) Clarify roles and responsibilities of the various participants;~~
- ~~(4) Identify community resources and needs;~~
- ~~(5) Prepare a plan for developing a coordinated transportation system that meets the intent of this chapter, addresses community needs, and efficiently uses community resources to address unmet needs;~~
- ~~(6) Implement the community coordinated transportation plan;~~
- ~~(7) Develop performance measures consistent with council guidelines;~~
- ~~(8) Develop a reporting process consistent with council guidelines;~~
- ~~(9) Raise issues and barriers to the council when resolution is needed at either the state or federal level;~~
- ~~(10) Develop a process for open discussion and input on local policy and facility siting decisions that may have an impact on the special needs transportation costs and service delivery of other programs and agencies in the community.))~~

The agency council on coordinated transportation shall review and recommend certification of local plans developed by regional transportation planning organizations based on meeting federal requirements. Each regional transportation planning organization must submit to the council an updated plan that includes the elements, consistent with federal planning requirements, identified by the council beginning on July 1, 2007, and every four years thereafter.

Each regional transportation planning organization must submit to the council every two years a prioritized regional human service and transportation project list.

**Sec. 5.** RCW 47.80.023 and 1998 c 171 s 8 are each amended to read as follows:

Each regional transportation planning organization shall have the following duties:

- (1) Prepare and periodically update a transportation strategy for the region. The strategy shall address alternative transportation modes and transportation demand management measures in regional

1 corridors and shall recommend preferred transportation policies to  
2 implement adopted growth strategies. The strategy shall serve as a  
3 guide in preparation of the regional transportation plan.

4 (2) Prepare a regional transportation plan as set forth in RCW  
5 47.80.030 that is consistent with county-wide planning policies if such  
6 have been adopted pursuant to chapter 36.70A RCW, with county, city,  
7 and town comprehensive plans, and state transportation plans.

8 (3) Certify by December 31, 1996, that the transportation elements  
9 of comprehensive plans adopted by counties, cities, and towns within  
10 the region reflect the guidelines and principles developed pursuant to  
11 RCW 47.80.026, are consistent with the adopted regional transportation  
12 plan, and, where appropriate, conform with the requirements of RCW  
13 36.70A.070.

14 (4) Where appropriate, certify that county-wide planning policies  
15 adopted under RCW 36.70A.210 and the adopted regional transportation  
16 plan are consistent.

17 (5) Develop, in cooperation with the department of transportation,  
18 operators of public transportation services and local governments  
19 within the region, a six-year regional transportation improvement  
20 program which proposes regionally significant transportation projects  
21 and programs and transportation demand management measures. The  
22 regional transportation improvement program shall be based on the  
23 programs, projects, and transportation demand management measures of  
24 regional significance as identified by transit agencies, cities, and  
25 counties pursuant to RCW 35.58.2795, 35.77.010, and 36.81.121,  
26 respectively. The program shall include a priority list of projects  
27 and programs, project segments and programs, transportation demand  
28 management measures, and a specific financial plan that demonstrates  
29 how the transportation improvement program can be funded. The program  
30 shall be updated at least every two years for the ensuing six-year  
31 period.

32 (6) Designate a lead planning agency to coordinate preparation of  
33 the regional transportation plan and carry out the other  
34 responsibilities of the organization. The lead planning agency may be  
35 a regional organization, a component county, city, or town agency, or  
36 the appropriate Washington state department of transportation district  
37 office.

1 (7) Review level of service methodologies used by cities and  
2 counties planning under chapter 36.70A RCW to promote a consistent  
3 regional evaluation of transportation facilities and corridors.

4 (8) Work with cities, counties, transit agencies, the department of  
5 transportation, and others to develop level of service standards or  
6 alternative transportation performance measures.

7 (9) Submit to the agency council on coordinated transportation, as  
8 provided in chapter 47.06B RCW, beginning on July 1, 2007, and every  
9 four years thereafter, an updated plan that includes the elements  
10 identified by the council. Each regional transportation planning  
11 organization must submit to the council every two years a prioritized  
12 regional human service and transportation project list.

13 **NEW SECTION. Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 47.06B RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15 The agency council on coordinated transportation shall submit a  
16 progress report on council activities to the legislature by December 1,  
17 2009, and every other year thereafter. The report must describe the  
18 council's progress in attaining the applicable goals identified in the  
19 council's biennial work plan and highlight any problems encountered in  
20 achieving these goals. The information will be reported in a form  
21 established by the council.

22 **NEW SECTION. Sec. 7.** (1) The joint transportation committee, in  
23 consultation with the agency council on coordinated transportation and  
24 the joint legislative audit and review committee, as deemed appropriate  
25 by the committee, shall conduct a study and review the legal and  
26 programmatic changes and best practices necessary for effective  
27 coordination of transportation services for persons with special  
28 transportation needs.

29 (2) The study shall:

30 (a) Include a comprehensive, statewide survey of existing  
31 transportation resources for persons with special transportation needs;

32 (b) Identify opportunities for improving coordination by  
33 determining a uniform system of:

34 (i) Measuring and reporting trip costs;

35 (ii) Provider billing practices;

36 (iii) Provider agreements and reporting requirements; and



(iv) Sharing eligibility information and trip requirements; and  
(c) Make recommendations for:  
(i) Improving access to customer services;  
(ii) Integrating services of transportation service providers and brokers; and  
(iii) Best practices to effectively coordinate transportation services for persons with special transportation needs, including those at the subregional level.

(3) In conducting the study, the committee shall:

(a) Convene one or more meetings to consult with local and regional special needs transportation providers, brokers, users of transit services, representatives of nonprofit organizations that provide related transportation services, including hopelink, and representatives of other agencies and organizations, including the department of social and health services;

(b) Identify federal funding and related program barriers to improved coordination between state and federal programs and to reasonable cost sharing for those programs;

(c) Review and consider other relevant model coordinated special needs transportation systems throughout the nation as a source of best practices for Washington state, including the ACCESS transportation system in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania;

(d) Evaluate using nontraditional service providers, such as public utility districts;

(e) Evaluate methods to influence facility siting decisions for state agencies serving persons with special transportation needs in order to make facilities accessible; and

(f) Evaluate appropriate standards and strategies for a decentralized broker system, including the state's role in this system.

(4) The committee shall provide a draft final report to the transportation committees of the senate and the house of representatives by December 15, 2007.

**Sec. 8.** RCW 47.06B.900 and 1999 c 385 s 7 are each amended to read as follows:

The agency council on coordinated transportation is terminated on June 30, ((2007)) 2010, as provided in RCW 47.06B.901.

1       **Sec. 9.** RCW 47.06B.901 and 1999 c 385 s 8 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       The following acts or parts of acts, as now existing or hereafter  
4 amended, are each repealed, effective June 30, ~~((2008))~~ 2011:

5       (1) RCW 47.06B.010 and 2007 c ... s 1 (section 1 of this act), 1999  
6 c 385 s 1, & 1998 c 173 s 1;

7       (2) RCW 47.06B.012 and 1999 c 385 s 2;

8       (3) ~~((RCW 47.06B.015 and 1999 c 385 s 3;~~

9       ~~(4)))~~ RCW 47.06B.020 and ~~((1999 c 385 s 4))~~ 2007 c ... s 2 (section  
10 2 of this act) & 1998 c 173 s 2;

11       ~~((5)))~~ (4) RCW 47.06B.030 and 2007 c ... s 3 (section 3 of this  
12 act), 1999 c 385 s 5, & 1998 c 173 s 3; ~~((and~~

13       ~~(6)))~~ (5) RCW 47.06B.040 and 2007 c ... s 4 (section 4 of this act)  
14 & 1999 c 385 s 6; and

15       (6) Section 6 of this act.

16       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** 1999 c 372 s 13 is repealed.

17       NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** RCW 47.06B.015 (Program for Agency  
18 Coordinated Transportation) and 1999 c 385 s 3 are each repealed."

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By Committee on Transportation

19       On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "transportation;" strike the  
20 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 47.06B.010, 47.06B.020,  
21 47.06B.040, 47.80.023, 47.06B.900, and 47.06B.901; reenacting and  
22 amending RCW 47.06B.030; adding a new section to chapter 47.06B RCW;  
23 creating a new section; repealing RCW 47.06B.015; and repealing 1999 c  
24 372 s 13."

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